



Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

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GAIN Report

#GR0010

Greece

Citrus

Semi-Annual

2000

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Report Highlights:

Despite a cold front in January, Greek citrus production for MY 1999 is not expected to be affected significantly. Production is still estimated to be 950,000 mt for oranges, 85,000 for tangerines and 155,000 for lemons. Export prices for oranges range from \$240 to \$270, virtually the same as last year.

Includes PSD changes: Yes
Includes Trade Matrix: No

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Executive Summary

The Ministry of Agriculture recently revised its 1998 production estimates for all three citrus fruit to 795,000 MT for oranges, 80,000 MT for tangerines and 143,000 MT for lemons. Earlier estimates for these fruits were 770,000, 73,000 and 152,000 MT respectively as shown in the PS & D tables. No revisions were made for 1997 or the 1999 preliminary forecasts as shown in our annual report GR-9032 of 11/19/99.

A severe cold front moved through the country during January 20 through 22 dropping temperatures to minus 7 degrees centigrade. The major orange producing districts, namely Argolis, Lakonia and Arta were affected. Fortunately the damage is limited to the fruit born on the trees and not the trees.

MY exports for oranges, tangerines and lemons through mid March 2000 were 200,000 MT, 29,000 MT and 14,000 MT respectively compared to 130,000 MT 25,000 and 12,000 MT through the same period last year. About one fourth of orange exports went to EU destinations and the balance to Eastern European countries. In the case of both lemons and tangerines the EU accounts for less than 20 percent of total exports. Export FOB prices for oranges this season ranged between \$240 and \$270 per MT, almost the same as the range of \$230 to \$270 per MT of a year earlier. Orange juice concentrate converted to 65 Brix production during the 1998/99 year is presently estimated to have totaled only 10,000 MT. The 1999/2000 OJC production is presently estimated to come close to 13,400 MT. This was estimated earlier at a higher level of 14,650 MT but the January frost reduced the juice recovery.

The advance EU aid that the growers receive for oranges delivered to OJC processing plants amounts to 26 to 27 drs/kg (about \$0.08/kg) In addition the processors pay the growers another 7 to 10 drs/kg (\$0.02 to \$0.03 drs/kg) as a result of bargaining between the two parties. These prices are virtually the same to those of a year earlier. The Greek OJC 60 Brix is presently sold ex-factory at about 380 to 400 drs/kg (\$1.15 to \$1.21 /kg) while comparable Brazilian product, adjusted to the same concentration sells for about 420 to 430 drs/kg (\$1.27 to \$1.30 /kg). Brazilian product price reflects a drop of about 20 percent over that of a year earlier.

Exchange Rates:

1998	\$ 1.00 = 294.30 Drachmas
1999	\$ 1.00 = 305.85 Drachmas
2000 Jan - Mar	\$1.00 = 345.58 Drachmas

PS&D Table, Fresh Oranges

PSD Table						
Country	Greece					
Commodity	Fresh Oranges				(HECTARES)(1000 TREES)(1000 MT)	
	Revised	1997	Preliminary	1998	Forecast	1999
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		09/1997		09/1998		09/1999
Area Planted	38000	38000	38000	38000	38000	38000
Area Harvested	37000	37000	37100	37100	37200	37200
Bearing Trees	16420	16420	16470	16470	16550	16550
Non-Bearing Trees	450	450	400	400	340	340
TOTAL No. Of Trees	16870	16870	16870	16870	16890	16890
Production	987	987	770	795	950	950
Imports	1	1	3	2	1	1
TOTAL SUPPLY	988	988	773	797	951	951
Exports	322	322	199	203	300	220
Fresh Dom. Consumption	373	373	357	399	361	441
Processing	293	293	217	195	290	290
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	988	988	773	797	951	951

PS&D Table, Orange Juice

PSD Table						
Country	Greece				Degrees Brix	
Commodity	Juice, Orange				(MT)	
	Revised	1997	Preliminary	1998	Forecast	1999
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		09/1997		09/1998		09/1999
Deliv. To Processors	293	293	217	195	290	290
Beginning Stocks	4344	4344	2044	2044	44	44
Production	14800	14800	11000	10000	14650	13400
Imports	7500	7500	9000	10000	9000	9500
TOTAL SUPPLY	26644	26644	22044	22044	23694	22944
Exports	6600	6600	5000	4500	5500	5000
Domestic Consumption	18000	18000	17000	17500	18000	17500
Ending Stocks	2044	2044	44	44	194	444
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	26644	26644	22044	22044	23694	22944

PS&D Table, Fresh Tangerines

PSD Table						
Country	Greece					
Commodity	Fresh Tangerines				(HECTARES)(1000 TREES)(1000 MT)	
	Revised	1997	Preliminary	1998	Forecast	1999
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		09/1997		09/1998		09/1999
Area Planted	6010	6010	6000	6000	0	6000
Area Harvested	5920	5920	5920	5920	0	5940
Bearing Trees	2930	2930	2930	2930	0	2935
Non-Bearing Trees	45	45	40	40	0	35
TOTAL No. Of Trees	2975	2975	2970	2970	0	2970
Production	82	82	60	80	0	85
Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	82	82	60	80	0	85
Exports	28	28	25	27	0	29
Fresh Dom. Consumption	51	51	31	49	0	52
Processing	3	3	4	4	0	4
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	82	82	60	80	0	85

PS&D Table, Fresh Lemons

PSD Table						
Country	Greece					
Commodity	Fresh Lemons				(HECTARES)(1000 TREES)(1000 MT)	
	Revised	1997	Preliminary	1998	Forecast	1999
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		09/1997		09/1998		09/1999
Area Planted	11970	11970	11900	11900	11850	11850
Area Harvested	11630	11630	11610	11610	11600	11600
Bearing Trees	3850	3850	3835	3835	3835	3835
Non-Bearing Trees	120	120	140	140	110	110
TOTAL No. Of Trees	3970	3970	3975	3975	3945	3945
Production	158	158	152	143	155	155
Imports	11	11	11	12	11	12
TOTAL SUPPLY	169	169	163	155	166	167
Exports	31	31	21	22	30	20
Fresh Dom. Consumption	106	106	115	101	106	117
Processing	32	32	27	32	30	30
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	169	169	163	155	166	167